

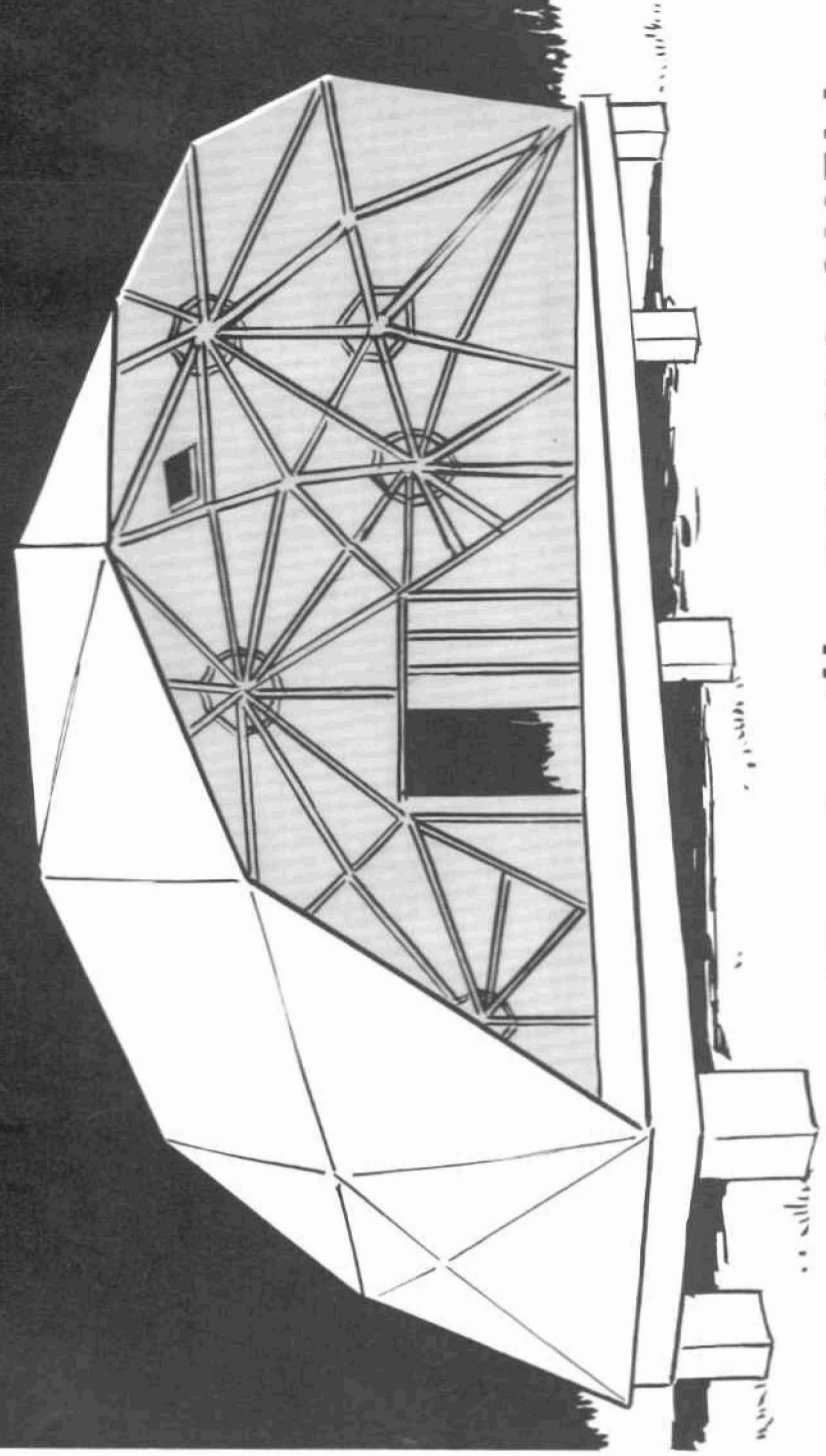
DEC 69

pioneer

# TROUBADOUR



December, 1969



## Harrisville MUSIC SHELL



# letters to the editor

Dear Ed:

On the 18th of October, a pot luck dinner of appreciation for all citizens of our community who helped promote or work on the Music Dance was held at the Vets Club. About 60 people attended. Mr. & Mrs. John K. Smith were among those attending. During the evening a plaque of appreciation was presented to Ralph Warner O.S.O.B.E.I.C. who engineered the construction of the Music Dance. The plaque was inscribed "In appreciation to Ralph Warner O.S.O.B.E.I.C. for community effort. Presented by V F W Post 6466." A decorated cake was also consumed by those attending.

Enclosed are a couple of color shots of the plaque and the decorated cake with a small miniature dome on top.

The history of the O.S.O.B.E.I.C. starts prior to Labor Day Harmony Weekend. While we were working on the project, Ralph Warner mentioned that the S P E B S Q S A wasn't the only organization who had initials in their titles. I have one too. I'm the O.S.O.B.E.I.C. (old Son of a b\_\_\_\_\_ Engineer in charge, so the title is still his.

Any questions on this night can be answered by John K. Smith at his phone no. KE 35414.

Regards,

Otto Klein  
211 First St.  
Harrisville, Mich.

P.S. Thanks for a tremendous job on Harmony Weekend.

Editor:

Let me start by saying that I am and always have been in favor of the Sweet Adelines. I feel that we in SPEBSQSA should cooperate with them as possible and help them in any way we can.

However, some twenty years ago, when I joined SPEBSQSA, I understood that it was a man's organization . . . LETS KEEP IT THAT WAY.

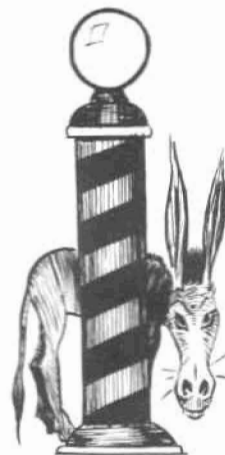
I was against the original "Feminine Observer" column and now I think it has gone too far. We now have a "Feminine Observer" for Zone 1, 3, & 4, and in the Zone 4 column I see it is stated that one Chapter has an auxiliary.

I repeat, if this is to be a man's organization, LETS KEEP IT THAT WAY.

A Charter Member of  
the Milford Chapter

Edward A. Nealer

Ed Note: Forget Females ? ? ? Not on your life. Not unless we get 686 letters (one more than half of the members) requesting it.





# SPEAKING OUT EDITORIALY

The material contained in this editorial does not necessarily reflect either the attitudes or opinions of the Troubadour, its staff, or the Pioneer District's Board of Directors. It does, however, display the American right of free speech.

By Ed Conn

A Jackson Chordial. That's not a drink, and its more than a feeling. It was a life style from October 10th to the 12th. The Jackson Chapter chordially hosted 600 Barbershoppers at the Pioneer District Fall Convention. For those fortunate enough to have been there, it was a weekend of singing, socializing, singing, seeing old friends, singing, competing, and singing.

There are 1,464 card-carrying members of the Pioneer District. Of this 460 or 31% participated in the competition Saturday (either chorus or quartet). I am confident there is not another organization in this country that realizes a 31% participation at their functions.

We have every reason to be proud of our memberships response to conventions. Seventeen quartets (count em, 17) competed for the title of 1969-70 Pioneer District Champion. And ten choruses competed for the privilege of representing the Pioneer District in International competition in Atlantic City next June. Some men were fortunate enough to participate in both the quartet and chorus competition.

The Vagabonds won the quartet competition and the Wolverines won the Chorus competition. But the other quartets and choruses did not lose. They won too because they had the thrill of being on stage singing to ten critical judges and an auditorium full of not-so-critical fellow Barbershoppers. And they had the satisfaction of knowing they participated, that they fulfilled the ultimate responsibility to their membership.



They are active participants in the Preservation and Encouragement of Barber-shop Quartet Singing in America.

No, the real losers are the 800 card-carrying members of the Pioneer District who did not attend the convention, who did not partake of the Jackson Chordial. They are the losers. They stayed home and watched a good football game on television. Or got the yard ready for winter. Or did one of a hundred other things that were more important to them. They are the losers.

And what is our responsibility to them? As much as it is to Tony, Norm, Ken, and Denny. We invite them into the Society and make them aware of the benefits, and the responsibilities, of membership. The extent to which they participate is up to them. They can sing in organized quartets and choruses and realize the full measure of the benefits of SPEBSQSA membership. Or they can woodshed and sing tags and realize the same benefits. Or they can become active in administration and realize the same benefits. Or they can stay home. And realize no benefits.

So this article is an appeal to those card-carriers who are Barbershoppers in name only. Re-discover what it is that brought you into this Society. Re-discover what it is that challenges men to reach for that ringing 7th chord.

And the way to do it is for you to make a personal commitment to attend the next ten functions of your chapter - chorus rehearsals, chapter meetings, visitations, shows, etc. Then you will remember the benefits to you in Barber-shopping. I'll see you at your chapters next meeting.

NEXT MONTH ROGER CRAIG, CERTIFIED ARRANGEMENT JUDGE, DISCUSSES THE MERITS OF HAND PICKING A CHORUS.

# Heritage of Harmony

by Mark Roberts , Historian

This is the second article in the continuing series that was written by Mark Roberts in 1962. All of the articles will be reprinted for the benefit of those of us who were not around to read the original printing. This Month's offering:

## MICHIGAN GAINS STATURE

Michigan had no quartets in the National Contests of 1939 and 1940 but in St. Louis in 1941 Michigan's two top rated quartets, the District Champion Saw Dust Four and the runner-up Detroit Turners competed. While our two quartets did not come back bemedalled, they were finalists and we garnered both the National Presidency and the National Convention and Contest for 1942. Carroll Adams of the Detroit Chapter was our man who took over the top S.P.E.B.S.Q.S.A. job and Grand Rapids was awarded the convention and contest. We also placed three men on the National Board of Directors when Roscoe Bennett, Ed Schwoppe and Joe Wolff were elected to this high office.

Grand Rapids staged the biggest and best convention yet held and filled their Civic Auditorium with listeners for the big show. Our District also advanced musically when we placed five quartets in the finals. These were the Detroit Turners, Hall Brothers of Grand Rapids, Accoustical Persecuting Four of Jackson, Port City Four of Muskegon and the Gay Nineties of Kalamazoo. Other Michigan Quartets in this contest were the Pleasure Four, Strollers, American Legion Four, Banner Four (later to become the Progressives and Frankenmuth Quartet) and Dubious Four, all of Detroit, and the Old Timers, Muskie Musikords and Saw Dust Four of Muskegon; the Roundhouse Four and Dreamers of Grand Rapids, the State Highway Four of Lansing, the Ballad Benders of Charlevoix, the Variety Four of Birmingham, the Four Jewells of Flint, the Owosso Elks and the Four Oaks of Royal Oak. The reader may wonder how we got so many District quartets into the National contest. In those days

there were no elimination contests and any quartet was eligible to compete. While this system quite obviously, did not upgrade the standard of contest singing, it was more fun for everyone and particularly for the many quartets which entered merely for the fun of competing and not with the idea of taking honors. In some ways this system served the purpose of "preserving and encouraging" our kind of singing much better than the present arrangement because it provided fun, fulfilment and fellowship for a greater number of society members.

The Ten Year History of the Society states that the dearth of top tenors made it necessary that we have a rule barring anyone from singing in more than one competing quartet, but this rule was not adopted until after the National Contest at Grand Rapids where the writer sang with two competing quartets, the Dubious Four with Tim Weber, Mort Gittleman and Joe Wolff, and the finalist Detroit Turners. Maybe the officials decided that I was singing tenor but I thought it was baritone. In any event, being the only Society member to sing with two quartets in the same International contest has not brought me a Nobel Prize, either for promoting harmony or interfering with it, and I mention it here merely because it is necessary nowadays to cling to whatever small distinctions that are left. Another incident at Grand Rapids that year was that Jim Creed, well remembered for his high lyric tenor voice, sang in the prelims and finals without a tooth in his head. Jim's new dentures were not ready but he was, so he became the only "toothless



\* SOMEONE SHOULD TELL THEIR TENOR ABOUT 'CREST'!

tenor" on record in an International contest. I never did find out how the Stage

Presence Judges scored this lack of uniformity - three guys with teeth and one without but an obvious correction under these circumstances would be for the other three members of the quartet to have all their teeth yanked out.

One of the best decisions ever made by S.P.E.B.S.Q.S.A. was to appoint Carroll Adams as International Secretary following his term as International President in 1942. While most of us were too busy singing and enjoying ourselves to pay much attention to the administrative problems created by the rapid growth of the Society, Carroll was well aware of them and he proceeded to bring some order out of chaos by organizing an efficient International office. In the process, Carroll moved the Society, lock, stock and barrel to Detroit and established headquarters there and made Michigan the center of Barbershopping. While Adams was surrounded here and assisted by a group of Barbershoppers who were second to none in numbers, enthusiasm and dedication, it still was because of his vision, enterprise and hard work that Michigan became the leader in all things Barbershop. While we have every reason to be proud of the history of the Michigan District and the many great Barbershoppers who have contributed to this history, let us reserve a special niche for Carroll Adams, a truly great one.

At one time, Michigan was the leader in membership, in number of chapters, in number of quartets and in just about every facet of Barbershopping that could be counted, weighed or measured. We have hosted four International Contests and Conventions, ours was the first District and we had the first District contest; our Detroit Chapter held the first Parade of Quartets and we were the first to have a local association of chapters (now called areas.) We have produced more than our share of International Officers and Board members and Committee heads. Even today the Michigan District rates high when the ratio of Barbershoppers to the general population of the District is considered. A District with a population of twenty million should have more Barbershoppers than one with eight million.

Next month - EARLY CONTESTS AND CONVENTIONS.

## FOLLOWING the CHAMPS

# 1969



### the VAGABONDS

Wanna see the Champs in action? ? This column is the beginning of what will hopefully be a continuing accounting of the current District Champion quartet, whoever they may be. This year, of course, is the year of the Vagabonds. Troubadist John Morris has captured them in caricature, and we'll publish a running account of their schedule far enough in advance so that you'll be able to make arrangements to hear them. If you happen to be at a meeting where they're appearing, you'll probably sing with one or more of them. Like most barbershoppers, they'll sing with anyone and everyone until the wee small hours of the morning.

Their schedule for December and January is as follows:

- |           |  |
|-----------|--|
| Dec. 5th  | O.C.C. Ladies Night.   |
| Dec. 8th  | Somerset Mall Men's Shopping Night with the Chord Reporters. |
| Dec. 11th | With Mac Huff at Lansing Chapter Meeting.                    |
| Dec. 21st | Holt Rotary Club.  |
| Jan. 21st | M.S.U. Annual Veterinary Alumni Reunion.                     |
| Jan. 31st | Pontiac Parade.  |

In addition they will be turning up unexpectedly at Chapter meetings nearly every Friday night.

The Vagabonds contact man is: Tony Scooros, 4124 Yorba Linda, Royal Oak, Michigan, 48072. (Phone 313 549-4958)

# CHAPTER REPORTS

## WAYNE

by Morrie Giles

This being the final issue of 1969 may Wayne avail itself of the opportunity to bid you all a Merry Christmas and express the wish that only good will befall you in 1970 - or any other year.

On October 25th, Wayne Chapter and wives were treated to a good old fashioned hay ride, starting from the country home of Gene Beatty and winding through more back roads than I ever thought existed in Lower Mich. Two wagon loads of smooching and harmony beneath the brightest moon you could possibly ask for, -- then back to the house for chow. Our thanks to Donna and Gene Beatty for a wonderful evening.

The Wonderland Chorus, besides regular rehearsals, has also filled several engagements during November and has scheduled four more for Dec., including a big one for Livonia Mall Shopping Center.

Because of copy deadline for the Troubadour I cannot at this writing give an accounting of the combination Bake Sale, Flea Market, and Rummage Sale our wonderful Wayne wives have on tap for Nov. 22nd in Plymouth. They tried it last year with tremendous success. We love those gals.

A Steak Dinner, Dancing, plus all the drinks - hard or soft -- \$25.00 per couple. That's the deal for Wayne's big New Year's Eve Blowout. Because capacity is limited, tickets will be sold only to Wayne Members up until Dec. 1st. After that, surrounding chapters may purchase tickets, if any, by calling Jim Smith at 721-2816.

## LANSING

by Frank Laden

DON FUNK, LANSING'S BARBERSHOPPER OF THE YEAR - WHO ELSE

Lansing Chapter in its first annual repeat of the event elected Don Funk as its "Barbershopper of the Year for 1969." Don has been active in service to the Chapter for many years with all members benefiting from his endeavors. After having held officer positions in the Chapter,

including Chapter President, Don expanded his efforts for barbershoppers by working on Pioneer District projects and last year became Vice President for Zone 3. Confidence and approval of his work was evidenced in his reelection to the Zone 3 post last October. Chapter President, Willis Wood, expressed his very great pleasure of the Chapter's selection as he presented his personal element of esteem for Barbershopper Funk, it was a handmade, miniature plush chair some four inches in height cushioned in crimson red, a remarkable and beautiful piece of work.

The entire Lansing Chapter Barbershopper of the Year project was organized and conducted by John Longstreth and the award night, Nov. 17th, was an evening of pleasure. The program was fashioned somewhat like a "This Is Your Life" format in which one of the high points was a first person description by Sergeant Bill Carter of the Michigan State Police who related an incident in the 1952 Jackson Prison riot in which Don Funk, then with the State Police, acted in a meritorious manner for which he was cited.

Top entertainment was provided by Pioneer District's 1st place quartet the VAGABONDS. The VAGABONDS sang low, high, soft and loud and touched all stops in between. There is no doubt of the individual talents of Dennis Gore, Tony Scooros, Norm Thompson and Ken Gibson but together as a foursome, they're simply terrific. The program was enjoyed by Chapter members, the ladies and other guests, with coffee and donuts served to top the evening (Spudnuts by Chapter member Reese Olger.)

The Chapter's Election of Officers produced a great team to lead us through the banner year of 1970. They are as follows: Donald Horton, President; LaMott Bates, Adm. Vice President; Larry Wicker, Program Vice President; William Reid, Treasurer and Richard W. Holmes, Secretary. Good Luck, Men. May you receive the full cooperation of all the members.

On Saturday, December 6th we plan to have the best LADIES NIGHT and CHRISTMAS PARTY in Chapter history. An open local talent show will be one of the features of the

program with a grand song session and dinner at Celentino's Restaurant-Lounge.

The Lansing Chapter will host Mac Huff of International on Thursday evening, December 11th at Inn America. Mac is said to be the greatest aid to quartets since the pitch pipe. Critic, analyzer, arranger and leader of the first water; hope your quartet is there to benefit.

CHRISTMAS CAROLING will be the feature of Monday evening, Dec. 15th and perhaps the 22nd, too. We'll travel here and there in our bus and try to bring Christmas joy in song to all within audio range.

Good grief, the end of the year (and this report) is here.

BEST CHRISTMAS JOY AND A VERY HAPPY NEW YEAR TO ALL FROM THE LANSING CHAPTER.

### THREE RIVERS by George Dieffendorfer

Well I told you in the last issue of the Troub. that things were picking up in the 3 Rivers Chapter.

Our attendance is climbing and we have the following activities planned:

- Dec. 6th Chorus engagement, Three Rivers.
- Dec. 8th Quartet Clinic with Mac Huff.
- Dec. 15th Ladies Night Christmas Party.
- Dec. 17th Engagement in Sturgis.

I won't even get into next year yet. We also have 5 prospective members attending, just to show you what fine fellows we are in this area.

We have a Lutheran Minister and an Episcopal Priest as members, and a Lutheran and a Methodist Minister as prospective members.

Well, I guess this is the end of my sermon, I mean report for this month.

### PONTIAC by Terry Ermoian

Effective January 1, 1970 Pontiac will have a new meeting place. The "Metropolitan Club" on Baldion at Mt. Calm in Pontiac, only about 1/2 mile from the old meeting hall on Oakland. We hope you will come and visit with us

in our new home. Every meeting is guest night at Pontiac.

We will be holding two meetings a month on the first Wednesday of each month and the usual third Friday of each month.

The first Wednesday will have reduced prices at the door and it will be strictly a fun night of singing. All are welcome. It will be directed toward new men who want to learn songs.

Pontiac hosted the Quad Chapter meeting on November 11th and a good time was had by all. The Eversharp's enchanted us with their Repertoire of musical numbers, spear headed by Frank (Tiny) Bateson. Thanks guys, we appreciated your visit. Also we were double treated by the "4 Cooks" who rendered not only good harmony but their culinary skills. (Hey, any roast beef left? I hear it was great.)

Pontiac's Parade of Harmony Show due Jan. 31st will feature:

- The Mid-Night Oilers from Chicago Ill.
- Fan Fares-10th place International Finalist.
- Vagabond's-1970 Michigan District Champs.
- Invoices-2nd place Michigan District Finalist.
- Resonaires-Michigan District contestants.
- Bean Town Four-
- Banzo's-of Michigan.

Plan to keep this night open and get your tickets early. I guarantee it will be a night long to remember.

Pontiac's Halloween Party was attended by such noted honored guests as; "Georgeous George" LeKander, "Nylons Bulka, "Toco Toe's" Schram, Captain Nice Guerin and his carnivorous wife Kitty (mit the Gunsmoke) Lawrence, "Stosh" Douglas, Nurse (With child) Brown. We all got a "charge" out of the Frayers, a couple of real live wires. And last but not least "Al Jolson" Poscher.

Those who missed this annual event be sure to mark your calendars for next Halloween.

Your new Officers for 1970 are:

- President - Terry Ermoian
- Adm. V.P. - John Lickert

Prog. V.P. - Richard Guerin  
Secretary - Stan Lawrence  
Treasurer - Peter Glann

Election of Officers night will be  
Dec. 19, 1969.

**BOYNE CITY** Loton V. Willson

It is past time that the Boyne City Chapter appears in the Troubadour. I have been pressed into Duty as Reporter so will do my best.

For the past 2 years our Chapter has met at The Loft, thru the courtesy of Member Ed. Thurston. However, due to the closing of The Loft, we were without a Home. The Dilworth Sportel (the place you Headquarter at Bush League time) has new owners. Mr. & Mrs. Arthur Young of Detroit. They are a grand couple and when approached, they were happy to offer the Sportel as our Meeting place. Many of you will remember we met there when it was the Dilworth Hotel for years, and we are happy to be back. We meet every Monday Night and have an average turn out of about 75% of the Membership. We invite any of you when in this City on Monday, to pay us a visit.

Our Chorus was invited to sing again at the East Jordan Queen Contest, and wearing our nice new Red Uniforms, we at least looked pretty. We are now working on the Christmas Carols so that we can again sing at the Grandview Medical Care Facility, and the Emmett Co. Center. It is rewarding to be a part of cheering these elderly people up.

A good delegation from Boyne City attended the Bob Johnson Night at Traverse City on Oct. 13th, and as usual he inspired everyone. We are looking forward to Cedarville, and Mac Huff in December.

The Boyne City Chapter is celebrating its 25th Anniversary, we take pride in the fact that we are the only Chapter north of the Saginaw-Newago line who has had a Chapter continuously since 1944. Our Bush League April 4, 1970, will be our 24th Annual Contest, and while it is a lot of work, we feel it has produced enough inspiration and ENCOURAGEMENT to Quartets, so that we hope to continue it as long as Quartets

want it.

The Chapter wishes our New President Tom Damm, the best of luck as our Top Man, and hope he gets the cooperation he will need and deserves. For you that have not been in his spot, you will not realize the time, money, sweat and tears that go into the job. Best of luck Tom.

Boyne City's new Officers are Jay Shuring, Pres. Karl Mueller, Vice Pres. Harvey Varnum, Vice Pres. Roy Kindy, Sec. and Ted Speltz, Tres. Best of luck to all of you.

**MERRY CHRISTMAS**  
from the **WONDERLADS**



**Gordie Bert Hank Stan**

**MUSKEGON**

by Jay Smith

The Muskegon Chapter ladies night in October was a hit with Dick Hester as M.C. Dick's daughter and her girl friend performed for our enjoyment along with the program that Dick planned.

Several of our members went visiting to the Grand Rapids Chapter's annual Hobo nete on the 14th of November. A good time was had by all, and the vegetable soup served following the program was delicious.

The Pioneer District has now lost two of its favorite quartets . . . namely, the Auto-Towners and the Extension Chords (who sang their swan song at the hobo shindig). Everyone had tears in their eyes when the Chords announced that this was their official swan song and sang up a storm before we all went home. Muskegon wishes Don Lucas of the Extension Chords all the best in his new Volkswagen agency and home in Marquette.

The Port City Chorus under the direction of Webb Scrivnor is busy



every Tuesday night learning new numbers and breaking in our new chorus members.

The Kasual D's sang a public relation job for the Muskegon County United Fund dinner, and I hear by the grapevine they are preparing to head for Florida in February. The Dune Tones and Tri-neighbors are also busy getting ready for Christmas season jobs.

Our chapter inducted two members in Our Hall of Fame Tuesday night November 18th. The two new members are Bill Wickstrom and Bob Hart. Wick was one of our members who started the Hall of Fame and finally has been made a member of it. Bob held the Chapter Presidency for three years plus many other offices in our chapter.

In December we will install our new officers and view the new Logopedic film at our Past President's night program to be held on December 16th.

The past few weeks we have had the privilege of having Harold Daan of the Traverse City Chapter singing with our chorus. It's nice to have another Tenor singing with us.

This month we had Chris Crum join our chapter and chorus. Nice to have you aboard Chris. John Heyblom was awarded a Man of Note award for recommending and signing up Chris.

Our convention committees are all busy working to make the convention in April the best yet.

The Port City members wish all of you and yours The Merriest Christmas and Happiest New Year.

## HAPPY HOLIDAYS from the KASUAL D'S



Del Dave Don "Dup"

## NILES BUCHANAN

by Bob Thomas

The Niles-Buchanan Chapter had another busy month. We sang on our local Sweet Adelines Show, November 8th, along with the Harmony Hounds, Nile-Laters, The Michigan Chapter of Sweet Adelines, and the Tantalizers. The girls all did a swell job of putting on a show. Our guys all had a grand time.

We had our monthly board meeting in November, at the home of Chris Neff, our 1969-70 Treasurer. Our show plans were worked out, with a new formula for selling tickets. We'll let you know after show time if it works or not.

Our meeting Saturday, November 22nd was very constructive with International member, Chet Fox. The meeting was held at the home of Bob Thomas (me) with eleven members of our current and next year's Board Members present. The Nile-Laters sang a song or two to top off the night (almost morning). Chet had some promotional ideas on selling our Chapter and Barbershopping to the public, which we have not done in the past with any degree of success or satisfaction. THANKS Chet for all your help this time and the times in the past. You have helped our Chapter take the first step up the ladder of success.

We have a busy month of December coming up, starting with our Christmas Party December 6th, at the Elks Temple. We signed three new members the months of October, and November. We would like to welcome Jerry Wilske, Pete Snow, and David Haedtler to our Chapter, our District, our Society, and the greatest hobby in the world.

Sing ya next month.

## HOLLAND

by Dale Van Langevelde

Holland Chapter is back in the swing again. After capturing a fourth place at Jackson, we really feel encouraged to keep trying. A sincere vote of thanks to the Jackson Chapter for their hospitality, and their host guides who were so efficient in aiding our two quartets, The Tune Tailors and The Soundsations. The Windmill Chorus will be singing for a neighboring Junior Miss Pageant as

## 1969 Chorus & Quartet Competition in Jackson



WAYNE WONDERLAND 2nd Place



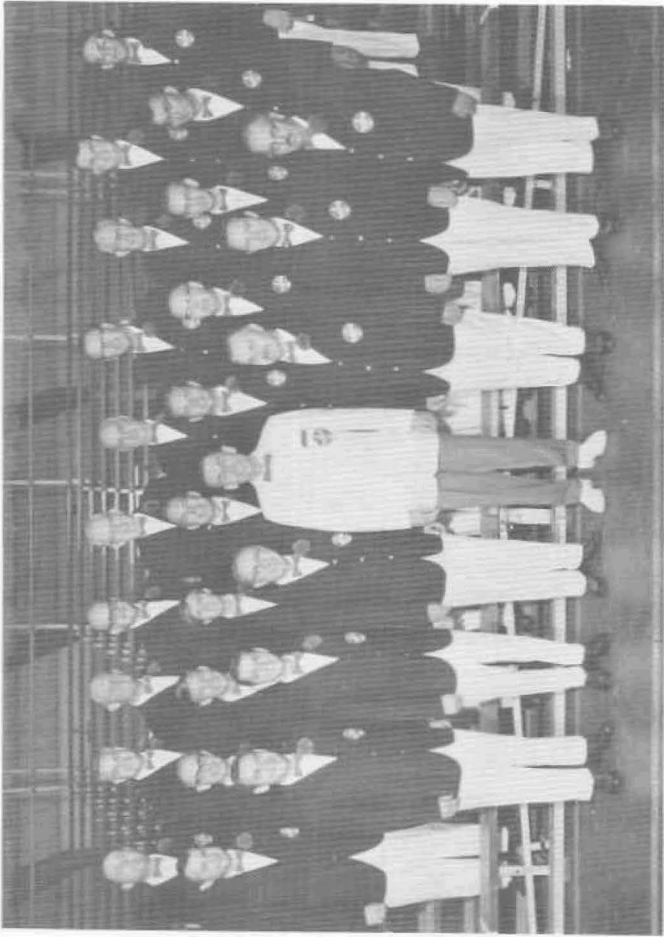
MOTOR CITY DETROIT 3rd Place



WINDMILL CHORUS HOLLAND 4th Place



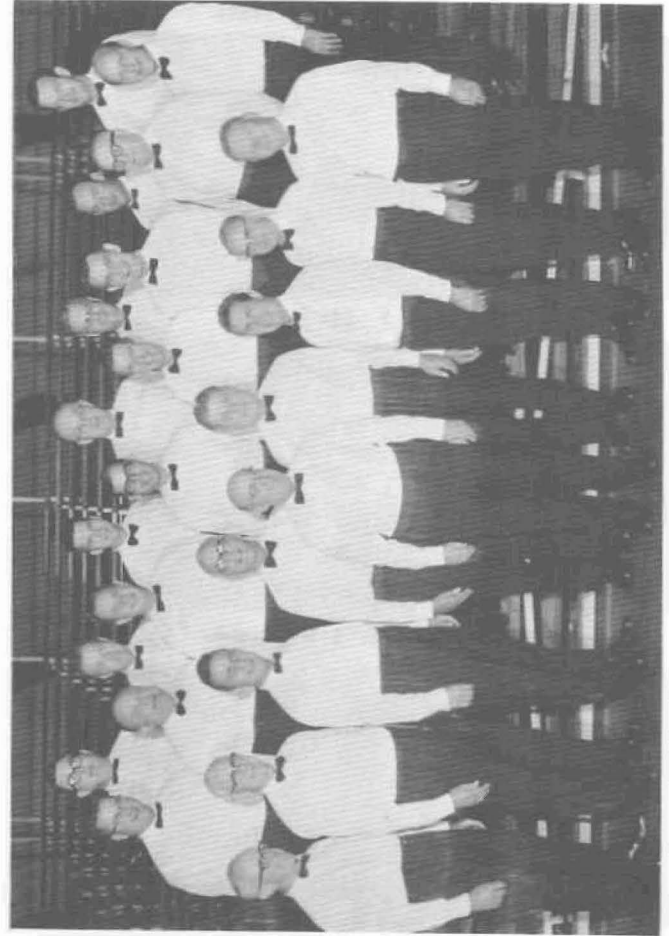
GREAT LAKES, GRAND RAPIDS 5th Place



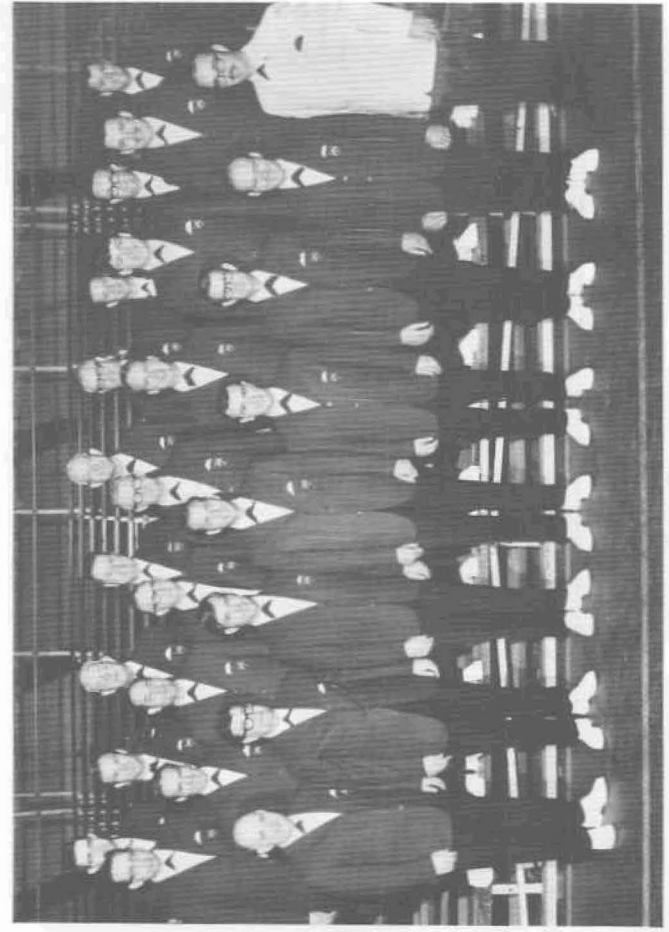
NILES, BUCHANAN 6th Place



CAPITOLAIRES LANSING 7th Place



JACKSONAIRES, JACKSON 8th Place



BATTLE CREEK 10th Place

1969 Chorus & Quartet competition...Jackson



INVOICES 2nd Place



NILE LATERS 8th Place



KASUAL D'S 3rd Place



ROYAL COACHMEN 9th Place



HARMONY HOUNDS 4th Place



MILLIONAIRES 10th Place



BEANTOWN 4 5th Place



SOUNDSATIONS 11th Place



RING MASTERS 6th Place



FORTUNE TELLERS 13th Place



CHORD REPORTERS 7th Place (Junior Champs)



'C' FARERS 14th Place



**RESONAIRES 16th Place**

Pictures not available of.....

**TUNE TAILORS 12th Place**

**BURRILL BROS. 15th Place**

**W. G. HARDING MEMORIAL FOUR 17th Place**

## KORTET & KORUS KORNER

A new quartet -- The Gentlemen's Agreement --- looks and sounds pretty interesting. It's personnel Drayton Justice Lead (Chordials), Bob Whitledge Bass (Chordials, Trebleshooters and others) Al Rehkop Tenor (you know him) and Glenn VanTassell (also of the Auto Towners and many others). The contact man for the quartet is Bob Whitledge, Monroe. We wish them luck.

The Kasual D's are lined up for 3 jobs on the same night. We wonder which one owns the helicopter??? The Sharplifters are too busy to even stop and talk these days. John Seeman, Bari in the group, has offered his professional taping equipment to any quartet that wants to hear what they sound like. Contact him for an appointment.

The Eversharps have hung up their chords. They've handled all of their job commitments and decided to call it quits. Good luck guys, whatever you do.

will the quartets. That date, plus "holiday--doin's" and groundwork for spring competition - plus our own Parade in May will keep us active well into 1970.

We enjoyed a joint party given by our Ladies Auxiliary to celebrate a successful Rummage Sale sponsored by them in November. The party turned out to be so much fun, talk is about a Christmas Party for Windmill Chorus-ers and family. Hope to have a Santa and tree to celebrate the "yule know what" season.

Year's end brings election of new officers and here are those to pilot the Chorus through 1970. President, Dale Van Langevelde; Secretary, Dick Harrington; Program V.P., Bob Essenburg; Membership V.P., Glenn Bonnette. Our director remains the same, Del Doctor, whom we hope will be around to see many elections.

Season's Greetings to all fellow Barbershoppers, and what better time to "Keep America Singing."

### FRUIT BELT

by Tom Ferega

Another event of the year for our Fruit Belt Chapter has come and gone As far as Inter-Chapter Relations are concerned our Annual Smelt Fry is always a high-light of the year. Chapters from the Southwestern Michigan and Northern Indiana areas were invited. Attending were Michigan City, and LaPorte, Indiana. Along with Niles-Buchanan, Three Rivers, Kalamazoo, Battle Creek and Holland, Michigan. A last minute change had to take place this year. Our Smelt Fry was held at the local Woodbine Club House at Riverview Park, St. Joseph, Michigan. Our committee did not realize our own building, the Chord-I-Torium had been rented for the evening. As it turned out everything went off rather smoothly.

The Quad-Ri-Chords were in charge of the event, assisted by Bob Duncan, Ron Leatz and the Kesterke brothers. Old dad Ray Leatz acted as M.C. for the evening. Quartets and Choruses that participated in the Impromptu Program were, The Kalamazoo Chorus directed by Don Barrett, The Niles Chorus directed by Ed James, The Michigan City Chorus directed by Rudy Hart and our own Fruit Belt Chorus led by former director Bill

Hansen.

The Four Dollar Bills and the Star Lighters from Michigan City, The Barons from Kalamazoo and The Nileators from Niles were quartets that rang out a Barbershop Chord.

Coming activities for the Fall and Winter include several singing engagements at Twin City area churches, an Elks Memorial Service and our Annual visit to the St. Joseph and Benton Harbor Hospitals.

One last note. The Fruit Belt Chapter held it's annual election and we want you to know who our new Officers are. Elected President and replacing Pat Carnahan in that office is our director, Tom Ferren; our two Vice Presidents are Stub Kesterke replacing Charlie Kesterke and Ron Leatz replacing himself. Bob Duncan remains as Treasurer and Bud Crage takes over Secretary duties from Denny Ford. Come see us any Wednesday evening at the Chord. You're always more than welcome.

## JACKSON

by Joe Hubbard

Do you know that by the time you get this in your mail box December will be half over with? Well so be it, but the Jackson Chapter isn't standing around and waiting for something to happen as they will have a full month. November 14th saw Past Presidents Night under the able hand of Bill Boyden, with a very good turn out by the Chapter. Some forty-five or fifty members were there alone, with a guest that Sam Cushman brought.

For those of you that should care less, our big President Dan LaBumard had a little boy, 7lbs 13ozs. Well his wife did. Our congratulations to the parents.

November 28th Dan will hold his 5th Annual Pickup Quartet Contest followed by a Christmas Party with wives and Sweet Adelins and their husbands at the Elks. December 12th the Chorus has a job singing for the Albion Ambulance Christmas Party. On January 24th we have a show with the Elks and Ken Preston is in charge January 30th will be a special night as we will see a film on the 1969 International Convention and Logopedics That would be a good night to visit

us, and speaking of visiting, I hear that Dan LaBumard wants this Chapter to get out more, so look out your door cause we may be coming up the path.

If you Chapters want us to visit you, get the word to us and we'll come singing up a storm and have a good night of harmony. So in closing keep in no matter how bad.

## HAPPY HOLIDAYS from the CHORD REPORTERS



Fred Bill Bob Dick

## TRAVERSE CITY

by Max Carter

The New Officers for the Year 1970 were elected the last week of October and they are as follows; Pres. Max A. Carter; Exec. V.P. Dean Fisher; Program V.P. Dr. Donald Fraser; Secretary Bob Green; and Treasurer Elmer Walling. The Directors are; Past Pres. Pete Nelson, Mike Ouwerk and Francis Sanborn.

The Present slate of Officers as well as the incoming group are already holding meetings to get the Spring Convention in 1971 Formulated. We do not mean to be boastful but it is our greatest desire to have the Spring 71 Competition one if not the best Conclaves that the Michigan Pioneer District has ever had. We hope and Trust that it will be the largest get together that there has been in many a year. Believe us when we say that there is nothing any prettier than this area in the Spring of the Year. So Start laying your plans out now for that event which will help prove that this is one of the most rabid Barbershop Areas in all of Michigan.

Saturday Evening Jan. 10, 1970 will be the Formal Instalation of the Incoming Officers here in Traverse City and our plans call for a complete evening of Harmony, Food, Some Liquid Refreshments and most of all the good fellowship that always prevails at a

group get together of this nature. Our Tentative plans call for Gene Gillam to Instal and We Hope that we can count on the "Bean Town Four" One of our greatest inspirations since the chapter has been formed. We wish to extend a special invite to anyone in the District. The meeting will be at Shields Restaurant on U.S. 31 North near Three Mile Rd. The meal will be Roast Turkey with all the Trim-mings and "Katies" Super Relish Bar. Get things really rolling there you Cadillac, Big Rapids, Boyne City and other Northern Chapters and join into this evening of Close Harmony. For Reservations call either Joe Williams (1-616-947-4563) or Harold Petter (1-616-946-6697).

For you folks that vacation in this area make a note in your calendar for the middle of June 1970. That is about the time of our Chapters "June Night of Harmony" Show and we would be most happy to have any of you Southern Mich. Vacationeers here for that evening.

I wish to make a retraction concerning our Former Director Al Hubschneider. He did not resign from the directorship of the Traverse City Sweet Adelines as your Red Faced reporter stated. Also at this time I wish to say that in my opinion Al is not only the Greatest Barbershopper here in T. C. but he is also one of the Most Avid and Staunch Supporters of the Society to be found any where in this U.S.A. If it had not been for his time, efforts, hours of research and devoted dedication this Chapter just would not have been here. Thanks for listening or reading about one man who has been plagued with Illness and Labor Problems for many many years but always finds time to get in more than his share of help for anyone interested in Barbershopping.

## FLINT

by Les Lang

October was "The month that was" for the Flint Chapter. We hit the jackpot by getting the best chorus director in this area to take over the Flint Chorus. Fred Kienitz has accepted the position.

We had two rehearsals in October and we are already beginning to sound well. Fred has, as his goal, our chorus to open our show on April 11, 1970.

Chapter members are showing real enthusiasm, and with Ron Grow of Mt. Morris Schools, as assistant, we have many of the members already singing and with an unlimited supply of students to draw from it looks like the Flint Chapter is again on the road to the best chorus we ever had.

We enjoyed many activities in Oct., Lansing Show, Saginaw Show, Flint Ladies Night, Holly-Fenton Halloween Ladies Night plus two of the best meetings we have had in many a moon.

The nominations committee submitted a slate of enthused members and on October 28th we held election of 1970 Officers and Directors as follows:

President	Larry Anderson
Adm. V.P.	Jack Lyons
Program V.P.	Dr. Wm Griffin
Secretary	Jan Nyland
Treasurer	Les Lang
Directors -	Murphy, Shannon, Kienitz & Goodall
Immediate Past Pres.	Neil Norman.

It looks like Flint is on the move and with the above leaders at the helm we will really go places.

November 4th. we had a lively meeting with Holly-Fenton, nice turnout and lots of fun. The Nov. 11th Quad-Chapter meeting at Pontiac was a well attended affair and lots of mass chorus practice. Entertainment was by the Eversharps and the "COOKS QUARTET" Ya. Those characters. (Doug Beaver, Bob Deming, Bill Dolezel, Pete Norling.) Had everyone rolling in the aisles with their crazy songs. A nice lunch, refreshments, and woodshedding completed quite an evening.

Another Holly-Fenton meeting on the 18th. Chet Fox met with the Flint Board on Nov. 20th. at Les Langs to give us a lift on chapter problems. November 25th - Last meeting this month and only chorus practice session this month. Dec. looks like two meetings at each chapter and Christmas.

A very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year to all Barbershoppers everywhere.



## OAKLAND COUNTY by Bob Drabik

A word to TERRY ERMOIAN and the PONTIAC CHAPTER - thanx. Even tho my face got a little pink as I read it, I felt like a million \$ when I finished. It's guys like you that make this Society the great one it is - I only hope we deserve that much friendship.

Our regular monthly meeting of November 7th was a songfest to end all songfests. It got going a little late (why, guys?) but once it did, RALPH PALMGREN emerged with the award as the Best Chorus Director, DICK LIDDICOATT won the Best Quartet Coach plaque, and winning quartet participants each received their own unique trophies. All this was topped off with BILL MANNAIONI'S authentic Italian spaghetti and meat sauce - wot a night.

Our scheduled WAYNE visitation, on the 21st, turned into a joint jump to DETROIT # 1 for Canadian Night and - man - wot a meeting. Twenty-five - count em - 25 chapters were represented and my evening ended, in the hotel lobby, listening to the new GENTLEMEN'S AGREEMENT. It's evident the spring contest should be a "dilly".

November 25th, we surprised MILFORD with a jug presentation. This is a Singing chapter that makes you feel right at home. A good time was had by all.

The Little Brown Jug has a late start this year so we're begging each of you to pass it on as soon as possible. Everything in it goes to our International Quartet Representatives and they deserve all the support we can give em - remember they represent our district.

The SHARPLIFTERS, INVOICES, TANTALIZERS, KEEPSAKES, ADAPTACHORDS, CURBSTONE SERENADERS, CHORD REPORTERS, INCHORDJABLES, and all of this M.C.'d by the VAGABONDS. How does that sound for a Ladies Night schedule of entertainment? Mr. Eric Schultz will be there to install the new officers and December 5th is the date. (I never would have thought it possible, but, this time, I think our out-going Program V.P.

DICK VAN DYKE has out-done even himself - these shoes will be hard to fill.)

December 6th saw us in the City of Berkley Holiday Parade - a great way to start the holiday. And the way to really enjoy them is to give a little of yourself - sing for hospital patients and those in the "Silver Years". They love it and you'll be a better man for it.

The January 2nd meeting will feature the RESONAIRES, from Pontiac, impromptu quartet singing, our own CHORD REPORTERS, and maybe a surprise quartet so - c'mon in and see us.

Wes olych Swiat Bozegonarodzenia i Wesolego Nowego Roku. (That's Polock for Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year - I think????)

## SEASONS GREETINGS from the SHARPLIFTERS



Bill Joe Lowell John

BATTLE CREEK

by Roger Lewis

Ach. Himmel. Ben der toughen-busy monther mit das snappen-crackle-poptown chapter. Ben startenoffen mit das visiter by das paddlesplash-enboatensteamer stompin strummen-thumpers from das biggen great pondundlake chapter. Ben attractin get das many guestinlisten footen-tappers out. Ben drinken squeezeapple juicer mit roundin dough mit hole in middle und some goot oldt cherman beer. Jah.

Ach. Ben forgetten nicht ben rememberish introducen meinselfen. Ben das temporarisch assistanter to das fillenin editor und reporter for das associater reporter. Mein namer ben Fritz Schnitzelschnapper. Ben greaten leadersinger, das tremendous Baritoner, und das profounder Bass. Nicht ben singin das squeeken Tenor -- Nicht Haven das necessary doctorcuttin-kniferoperationer.



Ben lodkinpressinnoser to glassen for das Nile-Lators singentuner-melody - harmonygroup mit das December ein meetingplacer. Ben invitin all das olden timer nicht ben out lately singers, (ben hopenwisher some ben comen back und singund-warble of fentuner below.)

Ben visiter das oldensick mit das silent nicht und das many oldt cheer-man songs December das 8 - Ben invitin das Frau's, das harmonytunen melody singin Frauleins und askintell bringin das herr alonger. Ben havin das giftentannenbaumund shoppin - trafficfighten feelergood in das thumpen - bloodpumper (Nicht Schnaaps.)

Das officerelecter ben das President-er Richmoney Quartetenoffenvey Bari Dixon; Ben electer Vee Pee melody-tunenbarkenhowler - raunchy Bass Mell, das beautifullishsingin - hand-someleadensinger Lewis, V.P., und teakettleleakinairescapin Tenor Spear, Sec., und das moneybaggercarry parish.

Ben hopenwisher for das muchen - plenty harmony to all for das nicht ben - worken takentimencelebratin season.

Fritz Schnitzelschnapper  
Reporter

## MONROE

by Ron Koshik

Monroe is preparing for our Feb. show. We have hopes of making this the best show yet. There will be more on this later.

We went on a visitation to Maumee Ohio and ran across many of our Johnny Appleseed friends from Toledo and Maumee and from Pontiac Chapter. It was a real rousing time and no one was dissappointed. Dale Schroeder, of Monroe brought a Mr. Paul Pelltier along. He's from Paris France and is an exchange teacher here. It seems he had seen signs "Keep America Singing" and asked where all the singing was. Dale promptly showed him. Paul has adapted to Barbershopping pretty well and made his quartet debut in Muamee. It was beautiful to see and hear his enthusiasm for our style and he intends to see to it that we have a Paris Chapter upon his return to his home.

Last night was the Detroit-Canada night, which we attended. Who could stand to miss this big International event. Plenty of Choruses Quartets, Woodshedding and tags. Cliff, I'm still hoarse from trying the bass on that tag. We had the great pleasure of hearing the (sort of) beginning of a new Quartet, THE GENTLEMANS AGREEMENT. Who doesn't know these guys? We can lay odds to what they will be doing and I can't wait to hear them again.

Many of us sing and never really think of what our special sound consists of.

Well. We find at the top of a Chord, at the Directors left the Tenor. (The Director is the guy who is dedicated to standing in front of a group raising and lowering a forefinger of each hand in a ritualistic beat of some sort and frowning and grimacing at the poor fellows before him.)

Now the Tenor, poor fellow, suffers from constricted throat muscles caused by one reason or another and is unable to lower his voice range. He will be forced to stand at the Directors left forever or until he heals and can, joyfully, move to the Directors right any given distance.

At the Directors right we find the Basse Basses are big guys with big voices. I guess EVERYTHING grew. I recall a moose in the Northcountry which sat on a thorn and ran raging and bellowing thru the bush. That's the Bass. Now if he could constrict his loose throat muscles a little he could escape from Directors left to freedom.

Between the Tenors and Basses, we find the leads.

The leads throat musles are constructed some to keep him out of the bass section but not enough to put him with the Tenors. He has a sad part. It requires no thought or special skill. Many leads, while singing Mother McRee, might be thinking of football scores, overdue bills, or what's for dinner. His main duty is to set the pace and volume of the group. He stands

in front of the Director where a watchful eye can be kept on him.

Now if he could overcome his handicaps he may progress to the ultimate.

The BARITONE. Oh Joy. Doesn't the thought bring tears and a swelling to your heart. The Baritone. This beautiful, delicate, skillful, technician of song. His role is to establish the fabulous Barbershop Chord. When you get home from a great Barbershop event and you lie in bed, too keyed up to sleep, you'll be rehearsing all those endearing rafter ringers bouncing around your skull and you'll say a little prayer for the Baritone, for it was his hard work and skill and fabulous vocal chords that supplied the exquisite final fineness that created all those rafter ringers in the quality that is unique to our own fine organization

## DETROIT

by John Neighorn

At this time I am still recuperating from the flu, which has me retiring earlier than usual. I did however spend a few hours at the big event of the year, Canadian Night, and was I glad I did, what words could describe the Detroit # 1 Canadian Night, with standing room only, left. This room seats 350 people, so we can boast over 400, that is a real record to match. Now for some statistics, we had 25 chapters, 14 U.S. and 11 Canadian, Choruses were Scarborough Dukes of Harmony, East York Barbershoppers, Sarnia Chordsmen, Chatham Chorus, London Men of Accord, Wolverine, Wonderland, and Motor City. The quartets were Erront Knights, Trouble Makers, The Quartet, Sharplifters, Wonderlads, Chord Reporters, 4 Fits, Town Tones, Invoices, Gentlemens Agreement, and Londons Notations. Wasn't that some talent line up?, by a real pro M.C., thats how Detroit's Bill Wickstrom and his assistants work. Our thanks to you Bill, and to all of you who flew, rode & drove here making this the wonderful event that it is. The program ended with president of Chatham, Mr. Lobbestael presenting our president Mr. King with a Canadian Flag, our sincerest thanks.

December, Christmas, Jingle Bells, anyone? Wait, I'm still not unpacked from Harrisville, well

## MERRY CHRISTMAS from the VAGABONDS



**Norm Tony Deny Ken**

Barbershopping activities sure do make the time pass fast, and the year 69 has been another good one, we have seen faces come and go, but have maintained above 50 active men. January is Ladies Night, with installation of officers, then we moved from Ralph Schirmere to the Danish Hall then on to Bonnie Brook where we are presently rehearsing. Then came Big Bay City where we took the District Championship. Next came the chorus party for Detroit # 1 30th year at the home of the Westbrooks. July again saw the annual Moonlight Cruise on the river. What summer would be complete without the family picnic at the beautiful Camp Dearborn? Do you want to see how people really live? Well, come with us to Harrisville next year, it's sensational. Now the show must go on, it's the big one, the Detroit Parade at the Ford Auditorium. This brings us to Dec., which some of us wait all year for, to go Christmas Caroling, so break out that music, so we can tour the hospitals, old folks homes, and childrens homes, and get the real feeling of Christmas. Happy Holidays

## HAPPY HOLIDAYS from the GENTLEMENS AGREEMENT



**AL DRAYTON GLEN BOB**

JUST TO JOG YOUR MEMORIES -  
**MAC HUFF'S COMING**

The District will be richer for his visit. His itinerary is as follows:

Monday, Dec. 8 Masonic Bldg.,  
 Centerville, Michigan.  
 Hosts - Three Rivers Chapter

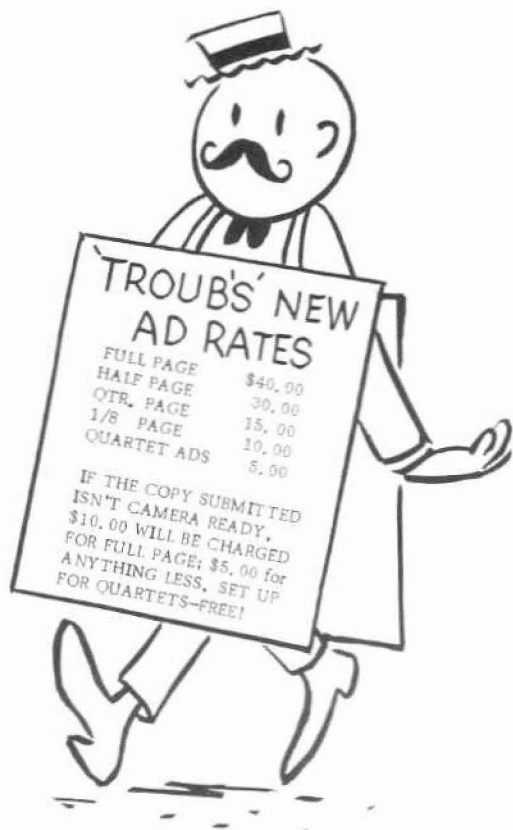
Tuesday, Dec. 9 Holiday Inn,  
 Bay City, Michigan.  
 Hosts - Saginaw-Bay

Wednesday, Dec. 10 Cedarville  
 High School, Cedarville, Mich.  
 Hosts - Les Chenaux

Thursday, Dec. 11 Salentino's  
 (Logan & Saginaw Sts.), Lansing,  
 Michigan.  
 Hosts - Lansing Chapter

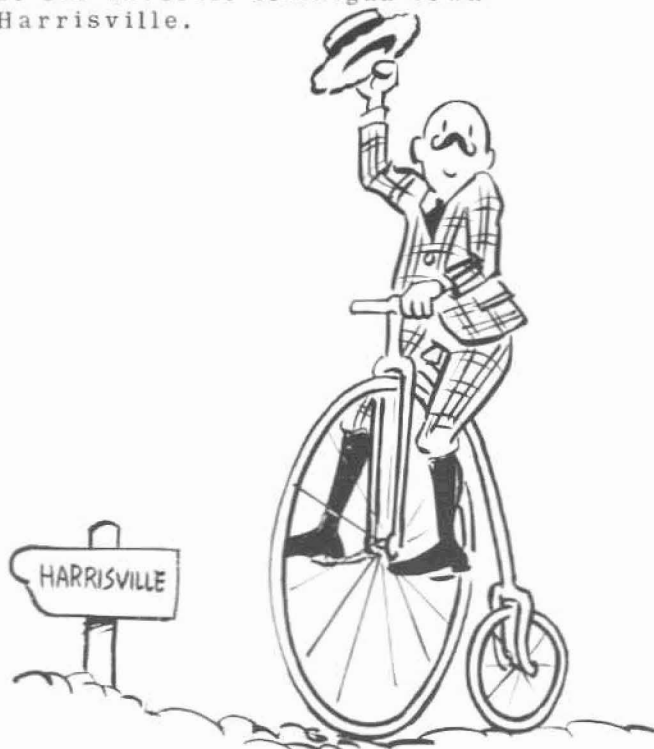
Friday, Dec. 12 Pick-Fort Shelby  
 Hotel, Detroit, Michigan.  
 Hosts - Detroit # 1

If you'd like to sing in a quartet, this night is a must, because Mac's "bag" is quartet promotion. Why not get a gang together and go.



Depicted on the cover, of course, is the shell in Harrisville, fun center of the Pioneer District on the Labor-Day Weekend. Weekend, indeed. It seems like every year barbershoppers and their families are going to Harrisville just a little earlier. For example, we are going up there next year on the Saturday before the Saturday before Labor Day. The good folks of Harrisville out do themselves every year, and the big thing this year had to be the addition of the shell. It was built of sweat and tears and financed by the citizens of Harrisville. One of the greatest thrills we've ever experienced (including District and International Contests and an evening with the Auto Towners) was the opportunity to sing in this shell last Labor Day Weekend with Motor City's Bill Butler directing about two hundred men in a few songs for the Sunday afternoon festivities. The sound on stage is so nearly perfect that even the flat chords ring. It brings lumps to the throats of some pretty big men.

An official tip of the proverbial hat, and a heart felt thanks to the people of our favorite Michigan town - Harrisville.



## Keep America Singing

THE NEW DEADLINE FOR COPY WILL BE STRICTLY ADHERED TO:

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men of  note

The MAN-OF-NOTE program works.

The current Men of Note make it look easy . . . especially Bob Whitledge who has added number nine. That's two whole quartets plus a coach. R.D. Meyers is to be commended also for number five.

The list for October is as follows:

Pat Carnahan	1
Rusell Seely	2
Fred Butler	1
R.D. Meyers	5
La Mott Bates	1
John Heybloom	1
Vic Vigansky	3
Dan Shelles	1
Gerry Clowes	3
Ed Cloutier	1
Robert Whitledge	9
Rawleigh Gregory	2

The District shows a net loss of 84 members from the same date one year ago. Do you have your Man of Note yet?



### THE PIONEER TROUBADOUR

Official publication of the Pioneer District of S.P.E.B.S.Q.S.A., Inc. with offices in the First National Bank Building, Detroit, Michigan. 48226

Printed by Advance Printing of Pleasant Ridge, Michigan

Editor - Dick Van Dyke  
Art & Layout - John Morris  
Advertising rates available on request  
Subscription rates - \$2.50 per year  
Single copy price - 25 cents  
Copy deadline - Chapter reports 25th, all other material, 20th  
Published monthly except July & Aug.  
Photography by Bill Pascher  
Mail all pertinent correspondence to:  
Dick Van Dyke  
THE PIONEER TROUBADOUR  
P.O. Box # 1970  
Madison Heights, Michigan 48071

### POSTMAN:

Mail address changes and undeliverable copy to the above address. Second class postage paid in Detroit, Mich.

STATEMENT REQUIRED BY THE ACT OF AUGUST 22, 1912, as AMENDED BY THE ACTS OF MARCH 3, 1933, JULY 2, 1946, JUNE 11, 1960, and OCTOBER 23, 1962, SHOWING THE OWNERSHIP, MANAGEMENT, AND CIRCULATION OF THE PIONEER TROUBADOUR.

Publication issued monthly except July and August at Detroit, Michigan for December, 1969

The names and addresses of the Publisher, Editor, Managing Editor, and Business manager are: Dick Van Dyke, 30452 Westmore, Madison Heights, Michigan, 48071.

The owner: The Pioneer District of S.P.E.B.S.Q.S.A., Inc. (Secretary: Louis R. Harrington, 2361 First National Bldg., Detroit, Mich., 48226). Known bondholders, mortgagees, and other security holders owning or holding one percent or more of total amount of bonds, mortgages or other securities: NONE.

Average number of copies of each issue of this publication sold or distributed through the mails or otherwise to paid subscribers during the 12 months preceding the date shown above was 1539.